

If you're looking for a blatant example of how media conglomerates are threatening localism and diversity while utilizing the public airwaves, Sinclair Broadcasting's move to force their stations to air an anti-John Kerry smear two weeks before the election is it. Not only is this obvious, potentially illegal partisan maneuvering by a Republican backer; it's evidence of how local community control of what is seen and heard by citizens across the country is being stripped away by a centralized, powerful few, without regard for the greater public good.

Please, please do not allow Sinclair to get away with this. Further, please take steps to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. As this episode during this pivotal election season demonstrates, the state of our democracy depends on it.